

To the preacher peculiar interest will attach to Dr. Herrick Johnson's article on "The Preacher," following the striking one in the January number on "Preaching." The two make up "Preaching and the Preacher," which, as a whole and in all its parts, is abundantly striking and suggestive.

This number of *The Review* is particularly rich in what may be called Washington literature, prepared in view of the recently celebrated 100th anniversary of Washington's death, and the approaching anniversary of his birth. Dr. Ludlow furnishes, in view of the former event, an original paper—and it is genuinely original—on "George Washington—A Character Sketch."

There is also a sermon by Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, of Plymouth Church, coming from the same anniversary occasion—on "The Ideal Americanism: Illustrated in Washington."

Perhaps the most directly practical and timely article in this issue is that of Dr. D. S. Gregory, entitled "Suggestions Touching Christian Science." It calls attention to some of the best of the easily accessible literature on the subject for the help of the preacher who needs to meet the error; suggests some of the reasons for its rapid spread; clearly states the principles—partially true—that give it power; and outlines the common sense way of meeting and counteracting the influence of this so dangerous fad.

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Honorable Thomas B. Reed, in writing of the modern trust, does not seem to regard it either as an "octopus" or a bugaboo. "My notion," says he, "is that while Providence and the higher laws which really govern the universe are, in men's talk, much inferior to the Revised Statutes before they are enacted, they are always found to be quite superior to them after they are enacted. In fact, Nature abhors a monopoly as much as it does a vacuum."

Mr. Reed's paper on Monopolies—which is to appear in *The Saturday Evening Post* of February 10—is a suggestive discussion of the methods of vast corporations. It discusses in a striking and original manner one of the most pressing questions of the day.

Hunting for New Writers

A Magazine Finds but 80 Worthy Manuscripts out of 8000 Read in a Year

Eight thousand manuscripts were received by The Ladies' Home Journal during the year just closed. Each was given a careful reading, but out of the entire number only eighty were found worthy of publication. The Manuscript Bureau of The Ladies' Home Journal is operated at a large expense, but the hope of discovering new writers, or some aspirants with undeveloped talent warrants the outlay. It can be seen that the articles secured by such a careful winnowing process brings the cost of each up to and above the remuneration paid our best writers.

These facts bring refutation to the oft-repeated but none the less erroneous assertion that only well-known writers of established literary reputation are able to find a place for their work in the magazines. Exactly the contrary is true. The Ladies' Home Journal, thru the manuscripts considered, has discovered three or four new writers of excellent merit and great promise, and this "find" its editor regards as fully warranting the large outlay of maintaining an expensive bureau for reading all the manuscripts submitted.

Brevities

—The Congressional Committee on polygamist Roberts has decided against his claim to a seat in Congress.

—The South African war seems to be resolved into an effort on both sides to avoid pitched battles.

—One hundred preachers in Brooklyn are banded together in the great revival effort now in progress in that city.

—The German Baptists have dedicated their handsome meeting house in Washington city.

—It is thought that the Nicaragua canal will receive early Congressional support, looking to its construction under government auspices.

—As much as 2,500,000,000 pounds has been lent to other nations by the British.

—A league has been formed in Maine for the purpose of enforcing the prohibition law.

—France has more persons over 60 years of age than any other country; Ireland comes next.

—Dealers estimate that more than 250,000 Christmas trees were sold in New York before Christmas.

—An electrically operated whipping device has been introduced into some of the penitentiaries in France.

—The length of the world's railways is more than 17 times the circumference of the earth at the equator.

—A Hartford (Conn.) fire insurance company has purchased the house in that city which, in 1794, was the first in this country to be insured against fire.

—Years ago the word "idiot" meant simply a private person as distinguished from a public official. A "clown" was only a farmer.

—Tests of oil as fuel, made in the British navy, have not proved satisfactory. Patent fuel, made of coal dust and tar, was found to yield nearly as good results as coal.

—A room may be quickly freed from the smell of tobacco smoke by placing in it a pail of water containing a handful of hay, which will absorb all the odor of the tobacco.

—Jerusalem is now holding but a shadow of the magnificent city of ancient times. It is about three miles in circumference and is situated on a rocky mountain.

—Durban is the nearest port to Johannesburg and Pretoria, being only 480 miles from the gold mines. From East London to Johannesburg is 665 miles; from Port Elizabeth, 714 miles, and from Cape Town, 1,013 miles.

—It used to be the custom to call an industrious peasant a "villain," and a "knave" was simply a boy. "Silly" meant blessed in old German and the old Saxon meant nothing out of the way when they called a man a "churl."

—The burning of the bride's playthings is part of the wedding ceremony of Japan. The bride lights a torch, which she hands to the bridegroom, who with it lights a fire in which the toys are destroyed.

—A great decrease in the use of the horse may be expected in the near future. Experiments in England have proved that heavy freight wagon traffic can be handled by motor power at one seventh the cost of horse power.

—The total amount of ore shipped out of Lake Superior last year would cover 85 acres to a depth of 80 feet. It would require 666,000 ore cars to load it and 22,000 trains to move it, 30 cars to a train.

—The Russian photographers have a strange way of punishing those who, having received their photographs, do not pay their bills. They hang the pictures of the delinquents upside down at the entrance to their studios.

THE TEACHER AND PRESENT PROBLEMS

WILLIAM T. ELLIS

The teachers of today may help to settle the problems of tomorrow. In their hands is largely the destiny of the next generation. They may have a great part in determining the character of the state and the church of the future. Only as we look to them, from amid the smoke of the great and multiform conflict that wages between truth and error, love and selfishness, do we see hope for ultimate victory.

The reformers, who from rostrum and leg-

islative hall, and thru public press, wage battle for the right, are doing much, but they know that all their effort will be fruitless unless they can inspire to do their duty those who have in charge the teaching of the young. The thought of the youth who are being trained aright keeps the reformer from becoming a pessimist. He knows that only from a generation nurtured into new ideals of religion, brotherhood, and citizenship can the day of victory come.

The supreme human power in our land to-day is the host of teachers in home, public school, and Sunday school. If they are moved by a quick sense of the great wrongs that need righting, and of the vital questions that cry aloud for answer, they can turn the tide of future public sentiment toward highest Christian ideals. From their hands may come a generation of men and women with more exalted conceptions of patriotism, civic duty, and the obligations of social relations.

Look, for instance, at the matter of citizenship. To-day the average man follows his political party, almost regardless of the power that may be in control of it or of what may be its platform. Obviously, so long as a party controls the people and the nation, and selfish men control the parties, there is small prospect of broad and permanent advance in affairs of government. But once let our boys and girls learn the real nature of patriotism, and that the public welfare is more important than party victory, and the old state of affairs must cease.

Now it is natural, easy, and proper for a Sunday-school teacher to present from time to time lessons of truest patriotism, as they may be suggested by the Scripture passage of the day. Our recent studies in the Old Testament are full of such teachings. The lessons which God had for Israel are substantially the same lessons that we need to learn to make us proper citizens of our nation. The example and words of Jesus, too, as well as of his disciples, are filled with truths that will make for highest patriotism. The teacher may, without departing from his mission, emphasize these truths, in a timely and sensible manner. Nor need he fear to speak plainly about evils in present conditions. It is well for our boys and girls to grow up with an understanding of the problems that throng our time, and a realization of their importance.

What is said of the matter of citizenship is applicable also to social and industrial questions. These, too, must be met and answered by the men and women who are to-day the boys and girls in our Sunday school classes. Our plain duty is to prepare our pupils to play their part intelligently, courageously, and in the fear of God. Every young person will be benefited by being taught that this is a real world in which we live, and a world full of grave and perplexing duties. With this knowledge should be given also the more important knowledge that the religion of Jesus is the most real and vital factor in all the affairs of this real world.